



# CHANGES IN STUDENT NURSES' CULTURAL HUMILITY THROUGH A CULTURAL IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

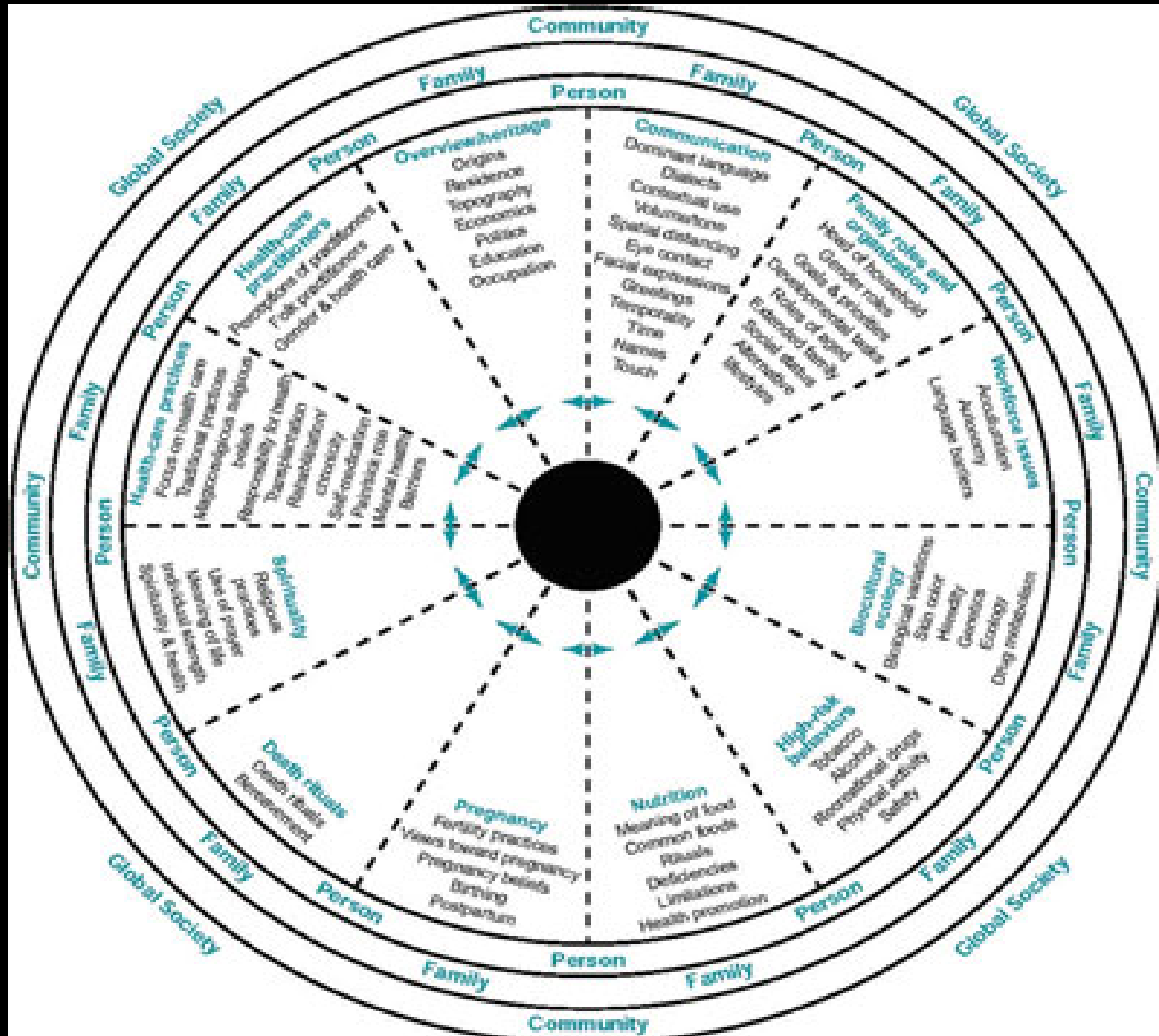
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# SHORT-TERM CULTURAL IMMERSION

- Two weeks to China
  - Beijing
  - Qinhuangdao
- Group of 20 students
  - 10 pre-licensure BSN students
- Pre- and Post-experience Self-awareness Questionnaire
  - Developed by PI based on The Purnell Model for Cultural Competence (2014)
- IRB approval
- Qualitative analysis
  - Themes



# The Purnell Model for Cultural Competence (Purnell, 2014)





# 1. CULTURE DEFINED BY LANGUAGE, RELIGION, ETHNICITY, OR COMBINATION?

- Both pre- and post- answers revealed a “combination”.
- Many students put the three in order pre-experience with “language” first, followed by “religion”.



## 2. VALUE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CULTURES

Pre-

- Value sons
- Family oriented
- Religion important
- Respect for elders

Post-

- Does not value personal space/privacy
- Values what's best for the community
- Respect for elders
- Family oriented
- Respect for tradition/history



# 3. PREDOMINANT RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

Pre-

- Buddhism

Post-

- 5 recognized religions
  - Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Protestantism, and Catholicism





# 4. FAMILY STRUCTURES AND ROLES

## Pre-

- Male dominant & more valued
- Respect for elders
- Women subservient



## Post-

- Male dominant
- Respect for elders
- One child
- Women have careers

# 5. INTERPERSONAL/ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS

Pre-

- Do not like public displays of affection
- Very private



Post-

- Open public displays of affection
- Start dating at older age
- More males than females



## 6. INFORMATION TO AID IN CULTURAL ADJUSTMENT

### Pre-

- "What if I get lost from the group?"
- "How am I suppose to communicate when I do not speak Chinese?"
- "Am I going to like the food?"
- "Can I handle being away from my family for 2 weeks?"
- "What if I offend someone by not knowing their customs and culture?"

### Post-

- Nothing specific
- Correlates with literature



# 7. STEREOTYPES ABOUT THE CULTURE

Pre-

- Odd clothes
- Physical characteristics
- Talkative
- Wear Masks
- Crowded (cities)



Post-

- More like Americans
- More rigorous schooling
- "The more I learned, the more I could see the similarities of us all simply as people."
- "The longer I was around them, the more I notice they are just like us."

# 8. HEALTH PRACTICES SIMILAR/DIFFERENT

Pre-

- Universal Precautions
- Similar equipment
- Holistic
- Eastern/Western mix

Post-

- Herbs
- No Universal Precautions
- Reuse equipment





# 9. PREPARATION TO BECOME AN RN

## Pre-

- Less schooling required
- Less training

## Post-

- 4 years of school plus 1 year of clinical
- NCLEX type test for licensure





# 10. CULTURAL VALUE OF NURSING PROFESSION

"Before the trip we were informed that being a nurse in China was looked down on as a profession. After meeting with Chinese nurses we learned that information was in fact false and that Chinese nurses are seen in the same light as American nurses."



# LITERATURE COMPARISON

- Comparing with other study abroad experiences:
  - Negative responses pre- and positive responses post-
  - Students realized the little things they missed (foods, clean water, toilet paper, etc.)
  - Knowledge of importance of family among the different cultures visited
  - Acknowledging that people in all cultures “do the best with what they have”
  - Use of reflection in immersion experiences
  - Journaling by participants
  - Qualitative data collection
  - Individual desire and readiness to experience other cultures
  - Short-term global experiences practical for constraints of nursing curricula and students’ family and employment obligations



Questions?